**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in an email communication with Stephen Perry on 11-26-2008.

The application is amended according a proposed amendment entered and emailed by the applicant on 11-26-2008. (See attached Examiner's Amendment.pdf).

**Reasons for Allowance**

Claims 1-5, and 7 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

1) Claims 1-5, and 7 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, as per MPEP § 2111.01, *In re Sneed, 710 F.2d 1544, 1548, 218 USPQ 385 (Fed. Cir. 1983)*, none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims.

2) Claim 1 is directed to a system for implementing customizable features in IP telephony using operational semantic and deontic tree. The main idea is the use of tuple space (physical space, see office action 5/16/2008 pg. 2), deontic tree, and observer node.

3) The best prior art is an admitted prior art by Barbuceanu et al ("Coordinating with Obligations" 1998) (See applicant's spec filed 8/1/2003 pg. 4), which teaches the concept of tuple space, deontic tree. However, Barbuceanu et al does not address run time resolution of feature conflicts (See applicant's spec filed 8/1/2003 pg. 4).

4) Another closest prior art is Buhr et al ("Feature-Interaction Visualization and Resolution in an Agent Environment" 1998), which teaches tuple space, observer node, and run time resolution of feature conflicts (See abstract, office action 5/16/2008 pgs. 6-7). However, Buhr et al uses Use Case Maps rather than deontic tree.

5) Another closest prior art is Gray et al ("Feature Execution Trees and Interactions" 2002), which teaches feature execution tree for both design of features and run time resolution. However, the feature execution tree is not deontic tree.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUT WONG whose telephone number is (571)270-1123. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent David can be reached on (571) 272-3080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Lut Wong/
Examiner, Art Unit 2129

/Joseph P. Hirl/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2129